NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATION LOTTERY
INVITATION TO BID
ELECTRONIC SECURITY SYSTEMS AND RELATED SERVICES
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1.) Are alternatives acceptable to the Honeywell Pro-Watch?

Yes, if the product submitted meets and/or exceeds the specifications outlined in the ITB and the NCEL is satisfied with the product.

2.) Should the district offices only have field controllers with required site hardware that communicates back to the host location in Raleigh?

Yes, at this time there are no clients or field servers.

3.) Will the NCEL district offices have access to the control database?

The system provided will need to be capable of future expansion that can be accomplished via terminal services at a minimum.

4.) Is it acceptable to have a scalable Access Control solution that permits growth from entry level to global level?

Yes, as long as the system proposed can perform in the manner outlined in the ITB, meets the current needs of the NCEL, can accommodate anticipated growth of approximately 33%, and can be integrated with the CCTV and Access Control Systems.

5.) If we can accomplish upgrade information via a software key, is dongle key still needed?

No, if the supporting documents of the software key will match or exceed the use of a dongle key.

6.) Does the database architecture require Microsoft SQL Server 2000?

The database needs to be able to integrate and/or link to other systems. If using an alternative database, it needs to be able to support documents and guarantee that it will work with other security systems, if needed.

7.) Are acceptable alternatives such as Progress permitted?

Progress will be acceptable provided it is not restricted to the point that only one vendor can service the system.

8.) Will a system that provides an option for the user logon be configured to work with the Operating System log on independently or separately

There will be a separate login outside of the OS login.

9.) Would a system that can provide a Windows based interface that allows for configuration in screens that are linked via command buttons be accepted?

The interface will need to be a true MS Windows native and have drag/ drop capabilities, configuration wizards, and a hardware tree-based system configuration. If the proposed system can perform this along with or by having linked command buttons, then it will be accepted.

10.) Is the Guard Tour module required?

Yes, the tour points will be identified during the installation process.

11.) Is the plan to partition the database so that personnel can be assigned access to the sites they are permitted to go to? Will each district office be configured individually to allow for a global cardholder database?

Yes, there will be different access levels for each site and throughout all facilities. Some systems use the terminology of "partitioned" differently; however, it will not be partitioned, but will have the need for different levels of access.

12.) Would it be acceptable to have a system that provides the ability to arm and disarm motion detectors via keypad or keypad and prox card prior to entering a room?

Yes, if pathways are determined to be needed, then that method would be acceptable.

13.) Can Group Access be controlled through Clearances programmed specially for a company and be assigned to the cardholder?

Yes.

14.) Are Dynamic Graphical Maps required in this bid? Would it be acceptable to use maps that can be configured in Microsoft Paint? Is it acceptable to use a bmp image of a floor plan while providing dynamic interactive icons that are linked to the object?

Yes, as long as the map is detailed and acceptable to NCEL and has interactive icons representing the devices. The status will need to be shown on the map.

15.) Is the Brass Key management system intended to be part of the Access Control system or a separate software system?

It will be part of the access control system database.

16.) Is badging credential equipment required in the bid?

No.

17.) How many cards need to be provided in the bid?

400.

18.) Does the NCEL commission have a prefer proximity or smartcard to card reader technology?

HID Corporate 1000 is preferred, but proximity with the option to move to smartcard is acceptable.

19.) Is the customer providing all network infrastructure equipment and connections? If not, what will the contractor need to provide?

The contractor is to provide all unmanaged switches and beyond. The customer will provide the communication from the HQ to each district office, but the contractor will need to patch out of their means of communication to a switch and then connect to their field equipment.

20.) Is a Visitor Management System part of this bid?

No, but the system needs to be capable of expanding into a true visitor management system.

21.) Is it acceptable if the Field Control panel supports home run wiring for each door device back to the panel, eliminating the door module?

Yes.

22.) Is one color acceptable if a Smart Card Reader is used?

Yes; however the NCEL must approve the color.

23.) Is encryption to controllers required?

Yes.

24.) What "add-on" modules should be included?

Guard Tour, Verification, Maps, and/or Brass Key at this time.

25.) Are there mechanical/electrical Von Dupron locks on the doors?

Either an electronic crashbar or a mechanical crashbar with an electronic strike made to work with a RIM device is acceptable.

26.) Will monitoring of alarm accounts be needed for each site? Will the Central Station need to be able to monitor via Internet as well as radio?

Yes. Pricing for third-party monitoring is not required as part of the bid, but may be submitted as an option, along with service/maintenance agreement rates and terms.

27.) Is the Safe/LAN room at each site a separate partition/account?

It will be a separate partition on the intrusion alarm, and it will be a separate access level on the access system, but it will not be a separate account for monitoring purposes.

28.) Is a cell backup system such as Telular or a backup system like AlarmNet acceptable for backup communication?

Yes, either will be acceptable.

29.) Do we need to use NVT technology for the exterior PTZ cameras or fiber?

NVT or like across CAT5 with surge protection or a separate control wire will be acceptable.

30.) Are the exterior PTZ cameras to be mounted on an arm on the wall or on parapet mounts off the roof?

Exterior PTZ cameras are to be mounted in a manner that displays optimum picture quality for the NCEL while being easy to service and maintain.

31.) SOW states RG-6 but drawings state RG-59, which is acceptable?

RG-59 will work for most cameras.

32.) Will training be required on these systems?

Yes, training should include, but is not limited to the following:

- Have all Administrators (not regular clients) either attend training at the factory or on site; OR

- Access Control: Admin - 40 hours with two (2) 4-hour classes and the rest given over the course of the warranty period. Regular Clients - just sit in on the two (2) 4-hour classes; AND

- CCTV/DVR: Admin - 40 hours with two (2) 4-hour classes and the rest given over the course of the warranty period. Regular Clients - just sit in on the two (2) 4-hour classes; AND

- Intrusion Alarm: Admin - 8 hours with two (2) 1-hour classes and the rest given over the course of the warranty period. District Offices - just sit in on the two (2) 1-hour classes

33.) Was any potential bidder involved in the process of specifying the equipment to be utilized in this project?

No.

34.) Is the bid geared toward a particular brand name of software?

No, but all systems need to be compatible.

35.) Are items listed in the scope of work listed for future expansion?

Yes.

36.) Would you please clarify the installed location and purpose of the Joystick with Data MUX?

This joystick will be housed in the control room there and will be used to operate PTZ cameras.

37.) Could we use a Rack Mount DVR, Rack Mount CCTV Power Supply, Rack Mount Access Control Panel and an Alarm Panel in an attack resistant enclosure?

Yes, using all rack mounted equipment is acceptable as long as no other equipment will be exposed.

38.) What is a Teller Camera?

This camera will be a camera that is tamperproof and will be mounted in an esthetically pleasing space on the inside of each teller window. Its purpose is to view the person outside of the teller window to obtain full recognition of that person.

39.) Does the redundant card access server need to be a "HOT" backup?

Yes.

40.) Can wireless be utilized on the intrusion devices?

No.

41.) Is there a requirement for length of time the UPS must supply power for?

UPS should supply enough power to hold steady in the event of a brief delay of starting systems, and it should be able to handle power surges.

42.) Can the multiplexer be eliminated if the DVR will provide the same function?

If the system being proposed can provide a multiple camera multiplexed signal through a client application that is equal to one single video signal, then it is acceptable. If not, then a multiplexer should be used.

43.) Will there be enough space in the network equipment rooms to allow for adequate ventilation?

Adequate space should be available, but if there is a concern, fans should be added to your rack.

44.) Is there a specific need for Gold partner certification?

It is preferred, but not required.

45.) What is "BLOB"?

BLOB is a term used for types of pictures.

46.) Does database partitioning relate specifically to controlling those items that may be seen by an operator based on log-in?

Yes.

47.) What is an example of or the equivalent of a 360° camera?

An example is an IPIX or any other camera that would accommodate a 360 View by Richardson Electronics.

48.) Is there a subset number of cameras that will be used for video analytics?

All cameras could have that need. The only need is for the system to be capable.

49.) What and how many audio elements will be recorded?

None at this time. The only need is for the system to be capable.

50.) Does Sub-Contractor have to reside in North Carolina?

No, but they must be licensed to do business in North Carolina.

51.) If we propose to use Sub-Contractors, are they subject to background checks? Both Owners and Employees? At what expense?

Vendors must complete ITB Attachment C for any subcontractor that comprises at least twenty-five (25%) of the cost of the Vendor's Bid (a "25% Subcontractor"). The NCEL reserves the right to conduct background investigations on such subcontractors pursuant to Applicable Laws. However, Section 3.8 of the ITB does not require payment of any additional fees.

52.) Are criminal record checks necessary even if they have been done thru the State of North Carolina Alarm Licensing Board?

Yes.

53.) Due to Confidentiality concerns, can we submit a "limited" list of references?

Pursuant to sections 4.6 and 4.7 of the Security ITB, vendors should submit a list of all current customers for which it provides similar systems or services, including at least three (3) examples of successful implementations. Bids should include as much information as may be necessary for the NCEL to properly evaluate a Vendor's background, experience and capabilities.

54.) Due to confidentiality and security concerns, what if obtaining photographs of such systems is not practical or permitted by the customer?

Pursuant to Section 1.2 of the ITB, the NCEL will make reasonable attempts to maintain the confidentiality of any trade secrets or confidential information that meets the requirements of N.C.G.S § 132-1.2, if such vendor properly and conspicuously identify materials that are confidential.

55.) Will NCEL limit the hold harmless and indemnification limit to Gross Negligence?

Pursuant to section 3.5 of the Security ITB, the Successful Vendors' duty to indemnify and hold the NCEL harmless is not limited to gross negligence.

56.) Will the checks be returned to companies who do not win the job?

Depending on the number of bidders, the NCEL reserves the right to narrow the pool for which it will conduct background investigations. To the extent that submitted Record Check Fees are not utilized to conduct the background investigation of a particular Vendor, such fees will be returned.

57.) Who is considered to be a team member? Are they the local installation and support staff or do they include non-local Corporate Officers and Directors?

Team members include the Vendor and all members of a joint venture, a strategic partnership, or a prime contractor team. Information to be disclosed is not limited to local members of the Vendor's team.

58.) Is an extension possible?

Yes, due to the delay in posting responses to questions, all bids must be received by 4:00 p.m. EST on May 3, 2006.

59.) In order to get accurate measurements for cabling, can we get scaled drawings?

Scaled drawings are not available at this time.